THE WAY of LIFE REVEALED: AND THE VVAY of DEATH DISCOVERED.

Wherein is declared, Man's Happy Estate before the Fall, his Miserable Estate in the Fall, and the Way of Restauration out of the Fall into the Image of God again, in which man was before the Fall.

Also, the By-Pathes, Crooked Wayes, Wiles, Snares and Temptations of the Enemy of man's Soul discover'd, who has and doth go about as a Roaring Lyon, seeking how he may ensnare and devour those who are in any measure escaping out of his Wayes of Death, and Destruction.

The utter End and final Destruction of all false Professions Propheſied, which have had their Rise in the Night of Apostacy, through the Loss of the Ancient Eternal Power of the Mighty God, by which the Gatherings to the Lord have been through Ages and Generations.

Also a Call in the tender Bowels of the Love of God shed abroad in this Day, Age and Generation, to all the scattered Sheep upon the barren Mountains of Profession, to return to the true Shepherd, Christ Jesus, that so into the One Fold they may be gathered.

Charles Marshall.

Go through, go through the Gates, prepare ye the Way of the People; cast up, cast up the High Way, gather out the Stones, lift up a Standard for the People. Behold the Lord has proclaimed unto the End of the World, say ye to the Daughter of Sion, Beho'd thy Salvation cometh; behold his Reward is with him, and his Work before him, *Isa.* 42. 10,11.

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To the READER.

BE serious when thou takest in hand to read this following Treatise, and have a single Regard unto the inward Estate of thy Immortal Soul; and let thy Spirit bow down to the Measure of the Spirit of God given thee to profit withal, that by it the Eye of thy Understanding may be opened, so wilt thou see the things herein contained, which concern thy own Eternal Welfare: and let not thy own Thoughts and Imaginations in the Wisdom from below (which is sensual and earthly) be Judge herein; but stand still out of thy own Comprehendings, Ascendings and Descendings; and let a true and diligent Regard be had to the Word in thy Heart and Mouth, there placed, that thou mayst obey it and do it; so will thy Heart be truly opened to read with Delight the Things herein, opened by the Spirit of Truth, which searches all things, yea, the deep things of God; and the Travel in Spirit (which is for the opening the Eyes of the Blind, and unstopping of the Ears of the Deaf) will be answered, and the Lord God Almighty will have his Honour from his own Workmanship, and thou the Benefit; which is the Desire, Travil and Breathings of him, who is a Traveller for Sion's *perfect Deliverance.*

Bristol the 7th of the 2d Moneth, in the Year 1673.

C. M.

THE Way of Life REVEALED; AND THE WAY of DEATH DISCOVERED, &c.

IN the beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth; and after he had made all things on the Earth, he made Man in his own Image, formed him of the Duſt of the Ground, and breathed into him the Breath of Life, and Man became a Living Soule: and the Lord planted a Garden in *Eden*, and there he placed the man whom he had formed; and out of the Ground the Lord God made every Tree pleaſant to the Sight & good for Food, to grow; the Tree of Life alſo in the midſt of the Garden, and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil; And he that made man in this Eſtate gave him a Law to preſerve him therein, as the Scripture of Truth witneſſeth, ſaying, *And the Lord God commanded the man, ſaying, Of every Tree in the Garden thou mayſt freely eat; but of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil thou mayſt not eat; for, in the day thou eateſt thereof, thou ſhalt ſurely dye.* Now God ſaw every thing that he had made, and behold it was very good; the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil was good, but not for Food; And man was indued with that Divine Wiſdom,

Wisdom, that when the Lord God brought of every Beast of the Field and Fowl of the Air to *Adam*, he gave Names unto them; and whatsoever *Adam* called every living Creature, that was the Name thereof: So here was man's Station in the Image of God, a living Soul, a Noble Plant, wholely a Right Seed, filled with Divine Wisdom and Virtue, cloathed with Innocency, covered with Glory, adorned with celestial Beauty in the continual Enjoyment of the Love and Favour of the Eternal Being of all Beings, having his daily Conversation with him that made him; no Death, no Darkness, no Sorrow, no Occasion of Tears, no Transgression, no Knowledge of Evil, dwelling in the Innocent Life it self, placed in the Garden, into which came the River out of *Eden* that watered it. Oh blessed State! Oh happy Condition! Oh unexpressible Enjoyment, undeclarable Beauty and Glory! 'Tis beyond the Tongue of Man to declare fully that blessed, happy Estate of Joy, Peace, Virtue, Purity, Holiness, Righteousness and Fruition of Life, which man was in before he transgressed the Royal Law of God, &c.

Man's Miserable Estate in the Fall.

But now he, who kept not his first Habitation, neither abode in the Truth, envied man's Happiness in the Truth, and therefore (as a Serpent, more subtil then any Beast of the Field which the Lord God had made) came to the Woman (who out of the Man was made) and said, *Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every Tree of the Garden?* The Woman said, *We may eat of the Fruits of the Trees of the Garden, but of the Fruit of the Tree which is in the midst of the Garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat, neither shall ye touch of it, lest ye dye.* And the Serpent said to the Woman, *Ye shall not surely dye; for God doth know, that in the day ye eat thereof then your Eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as Gods, knowing Good and Evil*: And here the Serpent got an Entrance. And when the Woman [mark] saw that the Tree was good for Food, and that it was pleasant to the Eyes, and a Tree to be desired to make one Wise, she took of the Fruit, and did eat, and

and gave also to her Husb and with her, and he did eat, and the Eyes [mark] of them both were opened: Here the God of the World prevailed, so as to open an Eye that saw Evil pleasant, and to blind the Eye in these Children of Disobedience, that they should no longer behold the Glory of God, &c. And here they became naked, having lost the Robe of Righteousness and Garment of Innocency, and then made Aprons of Fig leaves to cover their Nakedness; and they heard the Voice of the Lord God walking in the Cool of the Day, and *Adam* and his Wife hid themselves from the Presence of the Lord God; and the Lord God called unto *Adam*, saying, *Where art thou?* And the Man said, *I heard thy Voice in the Garden, and I was afraid, because I was Naked; and I hid my self*: And the Lord God said, *Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the Tree whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldst not eat?* Who began to excuse himself, saying, *The Woman thou gavest to be with me, she gave me to eat, and I did eat*: And the Lord God said to the Woman, *What is this that thou hast done?* And the Woman said, *The Serpent beguiled me, and I did eat*: And the Lord God said unto the Serpent, *Because thou hast done this, cursed art thou above all Cattel, and above every Beast of the Field; on thy Belly shalt thou go, and Dust shalt thou eat, &c. And I will put Enmity between thee and the Woman, and between thy Seed and her Seed; it shall bruise thy Head, and thou shalt bruise his Heel.* So the Lord sent him forth from the Garden, to till the Ground, &c. and placed at the East of the Garden of *Eden* Cherubims, and a Flaming Sword, which turned every way to keep the Way of the Tree of Life.

Oh miserable Change! Oh deplorable Alteration! Oh lamentable State, undeclarable undone Condition, unexpressible Fall! What! he that was in the Image of the Incorruptible Being, a Living Soul, inhabiting in the Garden of the Lord, where the Tree of Life was, and the Splendor of the Glory of the Divine Being was known and enjoyed, drove from all into the Earth, and not only so, but the Cherubims and Flaming Sword (that turneth every way) placed to keep the Way of the Tree of Life! Be astonished oh Heavens at this, and be horribly afraid oh Earth! The Lord God brought up Children, and they Rebelled against him.

Now

Now what was the Cauſe and Ground, O ye Sons and Daughters of *Adam*, that brought this horrible Change, that brought man into this deplorable State and Condition? Was it not Diſobedience to the Righteous Law of God? Did not Sin enter into the World through Diſobedience, and Death by Sin? And is not Sin continued in the World through Diſobedience? Is there any other Way by which Sin enters now then it did then, and Death by Sin, which has reigned over all, and reigns over all who are in the fallen Eſtate from God, even over them that have not ſinned according to the Similitude of *Adam*'s Tranſgreſſion? For all have not ſinned according to his Similitude, who was deceived with an Expectation of an higher Eſtate then that in which the Lord God had placed him; But all Iniquity, of what Similitude ſoever, is one in the Ground, and becomes a Separator of man from his God: So the Ground of all Iniquity and Tranſgreſſion that ever was, is, or ſhall be, is man's Diſobeying the Righteous Law of God, Diſobedience whereunto bringeth Death.

But what was that which in *Adam* dyed, and what was the Death; ſeeing that the Lord ſaid, *In the Day thou eateſt of the Tree* (before mentioned) *thou ſhalt ſurely Dye*; and yet, though he did eat thereof, he lived outwardly, and had Children?

It was the Inward Man that dyed, which was ſo made by the Living Breath of the Almighty; for man going out of the Counſel of the Lord, by his Diſobedience came to be alienated from the Life of God, and ſo became inſenſible of that primary Life in which he was wholely a right Seed, and a noble Plant: In his Degeneration he became inwardly dead; the inward Senſes of the inward Man were loſt; the inward Ear was ſtopped; the inward Eye was blinded; the inward Sence of taſting how good the Lord is; the inward Feeling after the Divine Virtue (who is all Power, Life, Love and Joy) the inward Sence of Smelling his Garments (that ſmell of Myrrh, and of the Spikenard Spiritually) were all loſt; and inſtead thereof, an Ear opened that hearkened to the Voice of the Stranger, and an Eye opened that ſaw the forbidden Fruit pleaſant and deſirable, the Heavenly Cloathing of Innocency, Meekneſs and Reſignation loſt; and thus he came to be without God in the World: and here in this Eſtate Man was altogether

ther out of a Capacity of abiding in the Garden, or partaking of the Heavenly Tree of Life, that was in the midſt thereof; and in this Eſtate are all the unconverted Sons and Daughters of men, notwithſtanding all Fig-leaf-Coverings of Profeſſions.

But as the Law of the Spirit of Life breaketh forth in its Manifeſtation, and the Sons and Daughters of men come with it to be awakened, they will have the Sight and true Sence of their inward Eſtate and Condition, which will indeed cauſe a Cry to ariſe in the Soul, *Oh wretched Eſtate! Oh miſerable Condition!* And here the Entrance of Sin comes to be ſeen, which hath brought Death; for the Wages of Sin is Death, which was the Death that came over *Adam*, and over all ſince, that have diſobeyed the Righteous Spiritual Law of God, which is juſt, holy and good, and was before Tranſgreſſion, which Law bringeth to Chriſt, the Promiſed Seed, the Gift of God, which is Eternal Life.

Now man being thus departed out of that Nature, Image and Seed in which man had his Being before Tranſgreſſion, is become the degenerate Plant of a ſtrange Vine before the Lord God that made him: And from the Sons and Daughters of men (as they ſtand joyned to this Nature and Seed of the Serpent, which hath defiled Man in Soul, Body and Spirit) proceed theſe Branches and Fruits of Iniquity, to wit, Pride; Envy; Emulation; Striſe; Variance; Debate; Hatred; Wrath; Anger; Murder; Inordinate Affection; Concupiſcence; Laſciviouſneſs; Wantonneſs; Vanity; Uncleanneſs; Fornication; Adulteries; Love to this World; Drunkenneſs; Revelling; Idleneſs; Swearing; Curſings; Cheating; Defrauding; Double-dealing; Evil-ſpeaking; Back-biting; Covetouſneſs; Idolatry; Witchcraft.

Man being thus fallen from God into this miſerable, deplorable State, the infinite Being in his Endleſs, Boundleſs, Fathomleſs Loving-kindneſs hath opened a Way, by which Mankind might be reſtored up to himſelf again; which Way is the promiſed Seed, concerning whom he ſaid to the Serpent, *I will put Enmity between thee and the Woman, and between thy Seed and her Seed; it ſhall bruiſe thy Head, and thou ſhalt bruiſe his Heel.* So herein was the tender Mercy of the everlaſting God extended unto Mankind,

kind, in leaving a Seed; else all would have been as *Sodom*, and like unto *Gomorrah*, which God destroyed with Fire in his Wrath: So this is that one Seed on which he hath laid Help, who is mighty to save, who is the Image of the Invisible God, the First-born of every Creature (in which Image Man was before the Transgression) who was glorified with the Father before the World began; This is He of whom in the Name of the great *Jehovah* I give Testimony, That He is the Way of Life and Salvation; and that there is no other Name by which any man can be saved, then by him who was, and is, and is to come; who was from Everlasting to Everlasting, the Rock of Ages, which followed *Israel*, and was in the Church in the Wilderness, as *Stephen* testified before he was stoned to Death: This is He who is without Beginning of Days or End of Life; who in the Fulness of Time was manifest, taking on him not the Nature of Angels, but the Seed of *Abraham*, for whom there was a Body prepar'd to do the Will of his Father; who, after he had accomplish'd it, ascended where he was before, far above all Heavens, that he might fill all: This is the *Emanuel, God with us*; *Jesus, the Saviour*; *Christ, the Anointed*, who hath been called by several Names, & spoken of under several Denominations and Appellations, through the Mouthes of his Servants the Prophets and Apostles in Ages and Generations by-past; This is the only Beloved of the Ransomed, and this is our Friend.

And now he is arisen and arising (who is the Ancient of Dayes) in the Might of his Power, and is revealing himself, the *Good Old Way* and *Path of Life*, whose Out-goings have been from Everlasting; in which Way *Abel*, *Seth*, *Enoch*, *Noah*, *Abraham*, *Isaac*, *Jacob*, and all the *Servants*, *Prophets*, *Apostles* and *Saints of the Most High God* walked through all Ages and Generations; which Way was before all the invented Ways and Worships were, which have been set up in the Will and Time of Man; for all the holy Men of God and Saints of the Most High worshipped God in the Spirit of Holiness, in which they were accepted of him, who is the God of the Spirits of all Flesh; And no outward Performance whatever, performed by any through Ages and Generations, was any farther acceptable unto the Lord, but as performed in this Spirit.

The Way of Reſtoration out of the Fall, into the Image of God again, in which Man was before the Fall, &c.

But how Salvation comes to be wrought by him, and how Mankind may be brought again into him, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life, and brought from under the Power and Dominion of the Seed of the Serpent (in which by Nature all have been the Children of Wrath) is indeed the thing that lieth on my Spirit weightily to demonſtrate, having obtained Mercy to ſee this Way of Life and Salvation revealed and opened; and not only ſo, but a Neceſſity hath been and is upon me to preach the Goſpel of Chriſt Jeſus, and declare the Way of Life and Salvation to my Country-men through this Iſland of *England*; and now a Neceſſity is alſo upon my Spirit, to leave a Teſtimony of the ſame on Record.

This is generally confeſſed, that in the firſt *Adam* all dyed, and in the ſecond Man *Adam* (Chriſt the Lord) all come to be made alive again: But how Mankind comes out of this State of Death in the firſt Man *Adam*, into this State of Life, in the ſecond Man *Adam*, is that which the Wiſdom of this World never knew, never ſaw, never underſtood, nor comprehended truly or rightly; Man by that Wiſdom hath only imagined & conceived ſomething in the Carnal Mind concerning this great Myſtery, and therein hath ſet up many Inventions of the Way of Life and Salvation; And into theſe many Wayes of man's Inventions and Imaginations (ſet up in the fallen Wiſdom of Man) there have been the ſeveral Calls, *Lo here*, *Lo there*; but the Day is dawned and appearing, and now breaking forth more and more (magnified and praiſed be the Name of the Infinite, Almighty God) wherein all invented Wayes, ſet up

up in the Will and Wiſdom of Man, that is Earthly, Senſual and Deviliſh, ſhall come to an End.

And now, in the Name of the Mighty God, all the graven Images, the Work of Men's Hands, and Earthly Wiſdoms ſhall be broken to pieces and ground to Powder; the Mouth of the Lord of Hoſts hath ſpoken it, who will perform it by the Might of his Arm, and by the Strength of his Power.

And therefore Tremble, Tremble, all ye Image-makers of all ſorts, who have been making and framing Likeneſſes of the Way of Life and Salvation in your fallen Wiſdoms and corrupt Wills, and have made Gods thereof, and have fallen, bowed down to, and worſhipped them; ſo that it may be ſaid of *Chriſtendom* (ſo called) as it was once ſaid of *Iſrael*, *As are thy Cities, ſo are thy Gods, O* Iſrael!

But now is the Fulneſs of Time come and coming, wherein the ancient Way of Holineſs (in which the Righteous walked through all Ages and Generations) is caſt up, manifeſt and manifeſting; which Way is Chriſt Jeſus (the Gift of the Father's Love unto the Sons and Daughters of men) who hath, as before-mentioned, been preached up and declared of by his Servants, Meſſengers, Prophets and Apoſtles under ſeveral Denominations and Appellations, according as he was pleaſed to manifeſt himſelf in & to them, and as his Spirit gave them Utterance: Amongſt many other Appellations he hath been declared a *Prieſt* forever, after the Order of *Melchizedeck*; the *Rock* that followed *Iſrael*, who was in the Church in the Wilderneſs; a King; a Law-giver; VVonderful Councellor; Prince of Peace; a Branch; a Light, to lighten the *Gentiles*; the Arm of God's Salvation; a Covenant; Meſſiah; a Leader; a Commander; a Captain; the Horn of God's Anointed; a Stone of Stumbling; a Foundation laid in *Sion*; the Corner-ſtone; the VVord of God; the VVord that was in the Beginning; the True Light, that lighteth every man that cometh into the VVorld; the Truth; the VVay and the Life; King of Kings; Lord of Lords; Chriſt; *Emanuel*; Jeſus; the Beginning of the Creation of God: the Firſt-born of every Creature; the Firſt-begotten from the Dead; the Faithful VVitneſs; Alpha and Omega; Bright and Morning Star; the Image of the Inviſible God; the Off-ſpring of *David*: Under theſe, I ſay, and o-

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ther Names and Denominations hath he been ſpoken and declared of and by, who ſtill hath a Name that no man knoweth but himſelf, who is that One Eternal Fountain of Bleſſedneſs, and the One Pretious Saviour; and there is no other beſides him, although diverſly denominated, according as his Spirit gave Utterance to demonſtrate him to thoſe unto whom his Servants ſpake, propheſied and wrote.

And now by the Ancient Power of the Holy Everlaſting God, is he preached up under the Denomination of LIGHT, in this Iſland of the *Gentiles*, according as was propheſied of old, *Iſaiah* chap. 49. verſ. 6. who ſaid, *Is it a light thing that thou ſhouldſt be my Servant, to raiſe up the Tribes of* Jacob, *and to preſerve the Reſtored of* Iſrael? *I will alſo give thee for a* Light *to the* Gentiles, *that thou mayſt be my Salvation unto the Ends of the Earth*; which is one with the Teſtimony of *John*, chap. 1. ſaying, *In the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God; the ſame was in the Beginning with God; all things were made by him, and without him was not any thing made that was made; In him was Life, and the Life* [mark] *was the* Light *of men; and the Light ſhineth in the Darkneſs, and the Darkneſs comprehendeth it not. There was a Man ſent from God, whoſe Name was* John; *the ſame came for a Witneſs, to bear Witneſs of the Light, that all through him might believe: He was not that Light, but was ſent to bear Witneſs of that* Light, *that was the true Light, which lightneth every man that comes into the World, &c.* And to this agrees the Teſtimony of Juſt *Simeon*, who came by the Spirit into the Temple, and took the Child Jeſus into his Arms, and ſaid, *Lord, now letteſt thou thy Servant depart in Peace, according to thy Word; for my Eyes have ſeen thy Salvation, which thou haſt prepared before the Face of all People, a* Light *to lighten the* Gentiles, *and the Glory of thy People* Iſrael. This is He of whom we Teſtifie, whoſe *Light* is the VVay to Life: *And this is the Condemnation, that* Light *is come into the World, and men love Darkneſs rather then Light, becauſe their Deeds are Evil; For every one* [mark] *that doth Evil hateth the Light, neither cometh to the Light, leſt his Deeds ſhould be reproved; but he that doth Truth cometh to the Light, that his Deeds may be made manifeſt that they are wrought in God.*

Now this *Light*, which the Servants of the Moſt High teſtified of,

of, is that which hath been ſpoken of and denominated under ſeveral Names; For this Manifeſtation of God in man is ſometimes called the Word, the Spirit, the Law, the Grace of God; now the VVord, Light, Grace, Law, Spirit, are all one in Nature, although diverſly named: *Moſes* called it the *Word*, and directed to this Word in the Heart and in the Mouth, which *Paul* (that illuminated Man) rehearſing, ſaith, *Say not in thy Heart* [mark] *Who ſhall aſcend into Heaven (that is, to bring Chriſt down from above) or who ſhall deſcend into the Deep (that is, to bring Chriſt up again from the Dead) But what ſaith it? The* Word *is nigh thee, even in thy Mouth, and in thy Heart; that is the Word of Faith that we preach.* This is the ſure Word of Prophecy unto which *Peter* directs to take heed, as unto a *Light* that ſhineth in a dark place, until the Day dawn, and the Day-ſtar ariſe in the Heart, &c.

This *Light* is the Law of the Spirit of Life, where-with *Paul* was acquainted, that warred in his Mind againſt the Law of Sin and Death (which was in his Members) This *Light* is the Law in the Heart, and the Spirit in the inward parts, the New Covenant of God Almighty; This is that which converts the Soul; which *Law Paul* delighted in according to the inward Man; This *Law* is *Light*, of which the Scriptures of Truth plentifully teſtifie; This is that *Grace* that *Paul* declared, brings Salvation, which hath appeared to all men; which *Law, Light, Spirit, Grace, Gift* hath in meaſures, as *God's Talents*, appeared unto all men, which teacheth all that are lead, taught and guided by it, to deny all *Ungodlineſs and Worldly Luſts*; and not only ſo, but alſo, *to live Soberly, Godly and Righteouſly in this preſent Evil World*: This is that *Grace* which the Lord (the Giver thereof) ſaid to *Paul, was ſufficient for him* to deliver him from the Temptation (the Thorn in the Fleſh) of which the ſame Apoſtle ſaid unto the *Epheſians, By Grace ye are ſaved, &c.* And this is the Manifeſtation of the Spirit (ſpoken of by *Paul*) which is given to every man to profit withal: And this is that good Spirit of the Lord given to *Iſrael, who rebelled againſt it*, as the old World did, unto whom the Lord ſaid, *My Spirit ſhall not alwayes ſtrive with Man*; of which *Word, Law, Light, Grace* and *Spirit*, given to be the Leader and Guider of Mankind out of Sin, Death and Darkneſs (into which

Man

Man fell through disobeying the Righteous Law of God, as is afore declared) the holy Scriptures give clear and full Testimony, as hath been demonstrated. But now, that which is ready to arise, is an Objection in some (whose Understandings are not opened, whose searchings to comprehend, and Inquiries after the Way of man's Salvation stand in that Wisdom that is from below, and in the Will and Reason of Man degenerated from the Life of God) which is, Whether the preaching up this *Word, Light, Law, Spirit* and *Grace of God* manifest within, hath not a Tendency to make Christ Jesus his Appearance in the Flesh, his Sufferings, Death, Resurrection and Ascension to be invalid? Unto which I answer, Nay; Forasmuch as no Persons ever did, do, or shall truly see, discern, know, understand or enjoy the Benefit of Christ Jesus his Manifestation in the Flesh, but as their Hearts were, are or shall be opened, and Understanding illuminated by the Light, which is a Measure of the Divine Fulness that dwelt in him, and is communicated to, and placed in all Immortal Souls, as the Universal Love of God, extended in the Son of his Love to all the Families of the Earth, as the Revealer and Discoverer of the Will of him from whose Divine Fulness it comes, and issueth forth it self universally; for the Scripture thus witnesseth, that *No man knoweth the things of a man, save the Spirit of a man which is in him; even so the things of God knows no man but the Spirit of God.*

The Hearts of the *Jews* not being seasoned with this *Grace of God*, and ignorant of the *Gift of God*, which is *Eternal Life*, they neither discerned, loved, nor received Christ Jesus when manifested in that outward bodily Appearance, but rejected him, notwithstanding they professed Love, Honour and Regard to the Prophets, and were in Expectation of the Fulfilling their Prophecies of the Coming of the Messiah, who in due time came, and yet they did not receive him, but instead thereof set themselves against him, taking Counsel from time to time how they might slay him, though in Words they profest an earnest waiting for him: So in this Day, Age and Generation there are many, who by their words do profess they believe his Coming in the Flesh, and his Sufferings, Death, Resurrection and Ascension; but yet having their Faith consisting in outward Notions, and having no inward Experience of the End of his Coming, nor of the Virtue of his Sufferings,

Death,

Death, Reſurrection, &c. they are Enemies in their Minds to his ſecond Appearance, and coming without Sin unto Salvation: So there is a Neceſſity for all the Sons and Daughters of men to come to, and obey this Divine Spiritual Principle, which is placed in their Conſciences by the Living, Eternal God, that thereby the Eye which hath been blinded through Diſobedience (by the God of the World) may be opened; for until this in ſome meaſure be effected, the Myſtery of Godlineſs (which is great) can neither be ſeen nor underſtood; and therefore Chriſt ſaid, finding the Woman of *Samaria* ignorant of himſelf (who was and is that great Myſtery, and the Gift of the Father's Love) *If thou knewest the Gift of God, and who it is that ſaith unto thee, Give me to drink, thou wouldſt have aſked of him, and he would have given thee Living Water.*

The Travail in Spirit of the Meſſengers and Servants of the Moſt High in Ages paſt, was the ſame as now is, viz. *To turn People from Darkneſs unto Light, and from the Power of Satan to the Power of the Living God*; thereby in no wiſe invalidating Chriſt Jeſus his Manifeſtation in that Bodily Appearance, neither his Sufferings, Death, Reſurrection or Aſcenſion; but brings all People guided thereby, unto that which will open the Eyes of their Underſtandings, whereby they all come unto ſuch a Condition and ſpiritual Underſtanding, as to ſee and know their Benefit by that Appearance of the Saviour of the World; for this we teſtifie, *All are perfected by that one Offering that are ſanctified.* But here ariſeth another Objection by ſome, who may come ſo far as to own and confeſs, *That there is a Principle or Light in man, that diſcovereth Sin, and teacheth man to do Juſtly and Equally* (which ſome call *Morality*) but, *That this Light or Principle in man is of a Saving Property, and of the Nature and Quality of the Divine Being*, many for want of Underſtanding do deny, and ſo are found Oppoſers of Truth it ſelf, and ſtumble at the Corner-ſtone, which indeed in all Generations hath been to many men a *Stone of Stumbling* & *Rock of Offence*, which Thouſands (giving themſelves up to be guided by their own Wiſdoms and Prudence) reject, yea, thoſe accounted the *Wiſe Maſter-Builders, Profeſſors of God and Chriſt*, being ignorant of the Root and Off-ſpring of *David*, have and yet do reject this *Corner-Stone.*

Now,

Now, for the ſake of all who do or may deſire after the true and ſaving Knowledge of Chriſt Jeſus, it is on my Spirit yet further to open and manifeſt the Original, Nature and Property of this Principle and Light, whoſe Original and Fountain is the Eternal Being and Everlaſting Ocean of Divine Fulneſs, and its Nature and Quality is one with this Fountain from which it comes: *John* teſtified, *In the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, &c. In him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men:* He alſo teſtify'd, *That he was not that Light, but came for a Witneſs, to bear witneſs, that that was the True Light, which lighteth every Man that cometh into the World:* So the Original of this *Light* is Chriſt Jeſus, the *Word.*

But ſome may query thus, *Is Chriſt the Light in every man?* To which I anſwer; Chriſt doth appear by his Light in every man; and the Light (which cometh from Chriſt) is in every man; as is clearly demonſtrated from the Scriptures of Truth: And, though I account it unneceſſary to anſwer the curious Inquiries of ſuch, who ſeeking to know much, *do not walk anſwerable to what they know*; yet for the ſake of ſuch, whoſe Underſtandings are not open'd, and yet are inquiring the Way to *Sion*, I add this Similitude: *The Natural Sun is placed by the Creator to lighten the Outward World, and doth extend from its Body a Meaſure of its Light and Natural Property, ſhining on the Juſt and the Unjuſt, and ſo doth daily give forth of that Vertue which is inherent in its ſelf: when the Sun ſhineth on an Object whatſoever, we ſometimes ſay, the Sun there appears; and other times we ſay, there is the Sun; the Propriety of either of which manner of Expreſſions I ſuppoſe none will queſtion; for Light in that Appearance is ſeen, and Vertue is felt penetrating to the Refreſhment of our Natural Bodies; and this Light and Heat is inſeparable from the Fulneſs; and notwithſtanding it daily ſhineth and diſplayeth its Vertuous Life into and over all the Earth and its Inhabitants, yet its Body is not any way exhauſted or altered through Ages and Generations.* And ſo I ſay, that Chriſt, the *Univerſal Fountain of Life*, the *Sun of Righteouſneſs*, the *Ocean and Fulneſs of Spiritual Light, Life and Vertue* (from whence is communicated a Meaſure of his Nature, Property and Quality) is given of the Father to enlighten all the Sons and Daughters of men, who accordingly are all enlighten-

tened

tened with his Spiritual Appearance; and though this Appearance cannot be call'd the Fulneſs, yet being a Meaſure of that Fulneſs, it is one in Nature & Property with, and inſeparable from the Fulneſs: And though through its Virtue Life is daily communicated unto the Sons of men (who waiting for the Appearance thereof, as for the Morning-Light, cannot live unto God without it) yet doth he admit of no Diminution, Alteration or Change; but all Fulneſs of Divine Light, Life and Glory doth and ſhall through every Age and Generation remain with him: And albeit the Vail of Darkneſs hath over-ſhadowed the Hearts of ſome, ſo as when we give Teſtimony unto the Univerſal Appearance of the Sun of Righteouſneſs in the Hearts of all the Sons and Daughters of men, they are ready to ſay, *Such a Teſtimony leads to the Diminiſhing of that Glory and Honour which belongs unto him as he is the Fulneſs, and ſitting at the Right Hand of the Father*; inferring from ſuch our Teſtimony, as if, whilſt *we teſtifie to his Appearance in our Hearts, we exclude his Preſence to be elſe-where*: which Inference, I ſay, is as irrational as it would be for any to conclude, That *becauſe we ſay of the ſhining and Appearance of the Sun, there is the Sun, or the Sun there appears; therefore we exclude the Being of the Sun elſe-where*: For its Virtue is communicated to our Natural Bodies, every one having in meaſure ſome Enjoyment of the Virtue or Light of the Natural Sun, which is Light to the Eye, even as the Outward Eye is Light to or of the Natural Body; and whoſoever they are, whoſe inviſible Senſes are quickened by the influencing Virtue, which proceeds from the Eternal Sun of Righteouſneſs, do thereby ſee and diſcern that theſe things are according to the clear Manifeſtation of Truth in their inward parts, and from a true Sence thereof can of a Truth give this certain Teſtimony, *That Chriſt, the Lord, by his holy quickening Spirit hath appeared in them, to the quickening of their immortal Souls*; and that through believing in the Light, and Obedience to his Appearance, being come out of that State which is reprobated by the Lord, can of certain experimental Knowledge ſay, *Chriſt is in us the Hope of Glory*.

And ſo when we direct People to this *Word, Light, Law, Grace* and *Spirit*, we do not thereby intend, that Chriſt Jeſus, *the Light*

of the World and *Gift of God*, is not the true Saviour, Redeemer and Reconciler of Mankind unto God.

Now this *Word*, *Light*, *Law*, *Grace* and *Spirit* (which is one in Nature) doth lead and guide the Souls and Spirits of all such as obey it, up to God, the Fountain, from whom it comes; and no man comes to see its Nature and Original, but such who are led by it; for in the Light of the Lord alone man cometh to see Light, & to have an Understanding of the Original from whence it springs: before this be seen or understood the Mind of man must be brought down out of all its own Willings and Runnings, Comprehendings & Searchings into the Principle of Light, therein to see a Death to his own Will, and be comprehended into this Light; and so man comes to have an Understanding to know him that is true, and to be in him that is true.

Now as any are convinced of and converted by this Heavenly Principle (which is placed in the Conscience, there given to be a Guide and Leader unto Mankind) they are led thereby out of Darkness, wherein they have been, while yet the Light shone in Darkness, in which Darkness no man ever comprehended this Light or Heavenly Grace, which sometimes moves through the Darkness on the Depth of man's Understanding, reproving and discovering Darkness, causing man to hear its small still Voice, moving in man God-wards, & so daily continues without Change, reproving man whilst he remains in *Rebellion* and *Disobedience* all the time of his *Visitation*, and approving and giving Peace unto man when he is *Obedient*.

This Principle of Light remains intire in its own Purity; and although man may change, and alter, and go from it, and rebel against it, and thereby become one of them of whom *Job* speaks, *that rebel against the Light, and thereby knows not the Way of it; but gives way to the Working of the God of the World, to be drawn out into the fading perishing things*: yet this Principle remains immutable in it self, being of and from the Immutable Unchangeable Being, and remains with man until it be taken from him, and he be cast into utter Darkness.

The first Operation of this heavenly Light amongst those who are convinced by and turned to it, the Gift of the Father (which Christ Jesus

Jesus in his Parable to the *Jews* compared to a Grain of *Mustard-seed*, and to a *little Leaven, which a Woman took & hid in three Measures of Meal until the whole came to be leavened*) is, to shew man his inward State and Condition; and the first Step in the Way of Life is, to be turned to this holy Principle, that teacheth the Obedient to know God savingly; and when by this Principle man comes to have a true Sight and Sence of his fallen Estate, and sees how he hath transgressed against that Eternal Being that gave him Life and Breath (who notwithstanding in his *Long-Suffering waiteth long to be Gracious, and knocketh at the Door of the Heart, and hath striven by his Divine Light*) the true Sight and Sence hereof will break the Heart, and tender the Spirit before the Lord; and under the weighty Sence of the great Burden of Sin and Iniquity, there will be a crying out, *My Sins they are too heavy for me to bear, and mine Iniquities are gone over my Head*, as *Paul* did, saying, *Oh Wretched Man that I am! who shall deliver me from the Body of this Death?* And here comes the Eye to be opened that seeth him, whom man in his Disobedience hath pierced afresh, and put to open Shame: and then there will be Dayes of Mourning and Wailing because of him, and this is truly the Day of *Jacob's* Trouble. And in the Sence of this Deplorable Fallen Estate, and the Long-suffering of the Lord, and the Long-striving of his Spirit, thou wilt see, that in the Justice of God Eternal *Death might be thy Portion*; but that which brings into this Sence, begets a secret Cry in the Immortal Soul after a *Deliverer* and *Saviour*, and will also give a true Sence and Sight, *that there is no way for thy Soul to be ransomed, but in and through the tender Mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ*; which thou wilt see can no other way be effectually begun in thee, but in the Way of the Judgments of the Lord; *For 'tis through Judgment that* Zion *is redeemed, and her Converts with Righteousness*: And here also thou wilt see that the Measure of the Sufferings of Christ yet behind must be filled up in thee; *for no other Way can any man pass unto Life, Peace and Joy with the Father of Spirits, but the Way the Captain of Salvation passed, which was through Death*; and here thou wilt begin to arm thy self with the same Mind: For none ceaseth any farther from Sin, but as they suffer in the Flesh the crucifying of the Affections and Lusts thereof; and here the End of the Gospel's Preaching comes to

be known and witnessed, which was and is, *that all men might be judged as men in the Flesh, that so they might live according to God in the Spirit*; and in this spiritual inward Sence & Exercise the Lord God Almighty will bow down his Ear, & Answer the Cryes of thy Awakened Soul, and manifest his Word of Power, which all in this State and Passage will know to be sharper then any *Two-edged Sword*, piercing to the dividing asunder of thy Immortal Soul from the Spirit and Nature of Transgression, and its Working daily (as Subjection and Obedience is yielded unto it) dividing and making a Separation between Joynts and Marrow, giving thee daily a Discerning of the Thoughts and Intents of thy Heart.

And as the Soul, Mind and Heart gives up in Love to God, freely to follow him in the Way of his Judgments, and gives up to the Sword of the Lord that which is for the Sword, and that which is for Destruction to be destroyed; thus will the pretious Work of the Lord prosper. And although this be a Time of *Sorrow*, and a Time of *Trouble*, *Travail* and *Anguish*; yet notwithstanding it is a Good Day: therefore strive not to get from under it, neither to make haste; *for the true godly Sorrow worketh the true Repentance, which is never to be repented of*; and after the true Repentance follows the true Knowledge of Remission & Forgiveness, and so thy Iniquities by the Judgments of the Lord God Almighty come to be blotted out; and then *the Times of Refreshment come from the Presence of the Lord, and from the Glory of his Power, &c.*

And as there is a faithful abiding in, inward Watchfulness, and continual Obedience to this Heavenly Light, in which the Beginning of the Work of God was known, there will be a going on from Step to Step in the Foot steps of the Flock of Christ Jesus, and a growing from Strength to Strength (over Sin and the Nature thereof) and from one Degree of Grace to another; and as there is a faithful Perseverance in this Divine Principle, the Eye of the Understanding will be single, and here every thing which hath or doth let will be seen, and the Soul never start aside from an inward Travil, until that which hindereth be taken out of the Way, and until thou seest all the Rule and Authority of the Enemy to be subdued under the Feet of the Lord's Anointed, and the Government in the Soul upon his Shoulders, whose Right it is to Raign over all.

And

And here Salvation, Redemption and Restoration is effectually injoyed, through the Effectual Working and Operating of the Almighty Power and Arm of God Almighty, unto whom be the Glory of his own Work forever; and so here will be a growing and increasing, until there is a coming into that pretious State and Image in which man was before he fell.

The By Pathes, Crooked Wayes, Wiles and Snares of the Enemy Discovered.

NOw when the Mind is turned to this *Divine Heavenly Principle*, and that therein the Work of the Lord is begun (which before is said, *is the bringing man into a Real Sensible Knowledge of his State and Condition*) then will the same *Destroyer* that brought man into Bondage at first, and hath kept him in Bondage, begin to work cunningly, and every way endeavour *to destroy the Work of God begun in the Soul*; and that he may accomplish his End, he will go about every way, seeking an Entrance, *and will lay his Temptations suitable to the Propensity or Inclinations of the Creature.*

If the Heart and Mind be *bowed down* under the *weighty Sence of Iniquity*, the *Sins* committed coming in order, and the *many Transgressions* in sight, through which the *Sorrow* and *Bitterness* is great, here the Enemy will work in his *Transformings*, and although *in Appearance like the Light*, yet *in Nature contrary thereto*: For, albeit the *Light* and *Appearance of God* gives the certain *Understandings* of the *inward State*, and brings *Sorrow because of Sin*, and shews the *Mountain of Iniquity*, and the *exalted Hills of Transgression*, yet its Workings inwardly beget a secret Hope of *Overcoming by the Lord's Strength*; but then the *Enemy*, when he seeth the Soul *bowed down*, as aforesaid, oftentimes *afflicteth*, and *brings down the Mind into Unbelief of ever Overcoming*, thereby endeavouring *to sink the Soul down into Despair*, knowing, if he overcomes he still keeps under his Power, although

in

in another Appearance; but all that are exercised on this kind, waiting on the Lord singly, with the Mind stayed in the Light, this Snare will be discovered; for, as I said, *although the true Appearance of God's Heavenly Light and Grace brings a Day of Trouble, Sorrow and Anguish, yet that Sorrow is not a Sorrow without Hope*; but the Enemy's Working is, to bring into a *Sorrow, Trouble* and *Anguish* without Hope, and to draw down the Spirit into the *Chambers of Darkness*, where there is no order,

But now, when the Enemy of the Soul's Peace is discovered in this his Working, and the Heart and Soul through the Love and Power of God is comforted, incouraged and refreshed, and raised up into a Measure of the Living Hope, Satisfaction and Content; then the old, crooked, subtil Serpent endeavours to lead from off the inward daily Travail, that so Judgment may not be brought forth into Victory; and so draw up the Mind into a False Perswasion of Obedience and Diligence, whenas there is not an Abiding in that which gives a true Sight and Sence of the State and Condition: And as before he would have destroyed the Hope that is an Anchor sure and stedfast, so now on the other hand, he would beget a False Hope and Confidence, and so bring out of the Daily Cross, through which the Nature which hath alienated from God should be destroyed.

And if the Workings of the Enemy be seen and overcome in both these Wiles and Snares, on the Right Hand and on the Left, and that the Work prospereth even until much be subjected, and that (through the daily Obedience to the Heavenly Power) much is slain, and that the Heart and Mind comes in a good measure to be cleansed, and that in pure Obedience and constant Faithfulness in this Light of Righteousness, a good Progress is made through the Administration of Condemnation (that is Glorious in its time) and that something of pure Peace and heavenly Joy springs and arises in the Heart and Soul; here again the Enemy will be subtilly at work, to betray and lead aside, in perswading to sit down now, as if all were done; and so lead out from the feeding on the Tree of Life, to feed on the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil: and so lead out into a Liberty to break the Commandment of the Lord; and here at first subtilly and cunningly draws the Mind out so far as to take a little Liberty, and draws the Mind somewhat from

from that diligent Watchfulneſs, Dread, Fear and Awe it was in before in the inward Travail of Spirit: And here if the deſtroying ſubtil Enemy can but prevail a little, he will lead out of the Innocent Harmleſs Life, and ſo gradually lead a little forth, and ſo by degrees openeth an Eye that may ſee ſomething in the outward viſible things that may ſomewhat affect the Mind; and as here he prevails, and cauſeth his Work to proſper (which he doth ſubtilly, gradually and hiddenly) the Eye that was opened comes again, through Diſobedience, to be in ſome meaſure blinded; and here Loſs is ſuſtained, even before the Unwatchful is aware. And ſo the Working of the Enemy firſt is, *to cauſe ſuch to make Shipwrack of Faith in a little meaſure*; that is, not to have the daily Belief to ſtand in the Power, the daily Injoyment of which coming to be left by degrees, there will then be a Turning from the Power of Godlineſs, into the Form thereof: And although at ſometimes the Eternal Power of the Lord God may be felt in this Eſtate, yet there being not a daily feeling after it, the Injoyment thereof (as to true Refreſhment & Conſolation) comes to be loſt, & an Image comes up in its place; and the Enemy provides and preſents ſome Object or Objects, ſo to take up the Mind, as that by degrees he may enter in, and defile the Mind, and draw it out from its true Guide; ſo as alſo to make Shipwrack of a good Conſcience.

And now, if the Enemy be diſcovered in theſe his Workings (before he can ſo effect his Work, as to bring Death and Darkneſs over again) and that the Power of the Lord breaks his Snares, and gives a true weighty Sence thereof (through which Trouble and Anguiſh of Spirit comes) here he will again transform and begin to work, as in the beginning of the Work, like the Condemning Power of the Lord, endeavouring to lead the Mind down into Deſpair of ever recovering again into the Former Condition, and hereby endeavour to draw the Mind to look at him that hath ſtung, that ſo the Remedy (the *Soul-Ranſoming Power of the Lord*) may not be felt after, nor looked at; but here (as there is a true Regard to the Lord, and a waiting upon him in the Way of his Judgments, having the Faith and Confidence to ſtand in his Power) the Backſliding will be healed; and returning and diligently keeping in the Light, the Power of the Lord God Almighty will work over that which hath Hurt, and endeavoured like a Roaring Lyon to deſtroy, &c. and ſo leads on the Way again.

But

But when Deliverance is known again from this deadly Snare, and the Work again goes on prosperously until the House be swept and garnished, and there is a Passage known and witnessed from Death unto Life, and the Administration of Condemnation being passed through, and the Spirit that ruled in the disobedient Estate cast out, and the Openings of that which doth exceed in Glory (the Administration of the Spirit) being known, here the Enemy will again Transform, and with all his Power and Strength in the Transformation (as an *Angel of Light*) work by his Temptation on the Right Hand and on the Left: For when there are Openings to the Understanding, and Prophecies, and through the Working of the Eternal Power Joy springs in the Heart, then will the Enemy work secretly and cunningly to draw the Mind out of the Valley of Humility, and if he prevaileth here to draw out of this Habitation of Safety, then he will transform to lead the Mind out, eitehr (through the Motions of his transforming Spirit and Power) into Extreams, thereby endeavouring to destroy the true Birth which is bringing forth, and so bewilder the Mind, and hurry it forth (through imaginary Motions) to Dishonour the Name of the Living Eternal God, and to destroy his work, which through Sorrow and Travil hath been brought forth.

And if he cannot prevail here, but the Light of the Lord discovereth him, and the Power of the Lord works over his Appearance herein, then will he be at work *to draw the Mind out of the Watchfulness, out of the daily Awe and Fear, and out of the Liberty of the Sons of God, which Liberty is (only) to serve the Lord*; for Dominion being felt in some measure, the Morning of Comfort & Consolation injoyed, and Praises spring in the Heart to him that visited and redeemed, the Enemy will be ready here also to draw the Mind out of the *Valley of Humility*, out of the *stay'd Estate of Meek and Constant Watchfulness in the Light*, thereby causing the Creature prodigally to spend the Portion, and to lavish out the Injoyment by *running and climing up to sacrifice upon the Mountains*, and *run before the Leadings, Guidings and Movings of the Power of the Lord*, into the speaking forth of the Injoyment (the *Prophecyings and Openings* (not being led thereunto by that Eternal Power that first opened the Heart) and here is the Ground of the Untimely Birth, that hath been brought forth, that hath and will *wither* and *come to nothing*.

But

But now, where the Enemy is ſeen and diſcovered in all the aforeſaid Workings, and cannot prevail by theſe Snares, Trapps, Gins and Temptations aforeſaid, he will not ceaſe, *who goes about as a Roaring Lyon, ſeeking whom he may devour, and how he may again get an Entrance*; ſo that he layes his *Temptations* according to the *Spirit, Growth, Capacities* and *Inclinations of every one.* Now after the good Work of God has been begun proſperouſly, and that the Right Arm of God's Salvation hath been wonderfully revealed, and *ſignally manifeſt* to bring out of *Egypt's Land of Darkneſs* ſpiritually, and that the Lord hath magnified his Arm ſpiritually, *in giving many ſignal Deliverances from the Deſtroying Enemy*, and has often fed with the Heavenly Food, and cauſed the Rock to yield Water for the Thirſty, and that the *many Turnings aſide* in the Paſſage through the *Wilderneſs* have been ſeen, and the *Back-ſlidings* and *Going out*, from a Sence of the Eternal Power have been diſcovered, & that there is a coming through the *River of Judgment*, and the Mighty Power and Arm of the Everlaſting God drives out the *Enemy* that hath inhabited (where only *Abraham's Seed* is to inhabit) and that the *War* in great meaſure ceaſeth, and part of the *good Land* is poſſeſſed and enjoyed (*even the Land that floweth with Spiritual Milk and Honey*) and the Fruit of the *Vine* drunk of, here alſo (as in the *Travils* afore-mention'd) will the *old, crooked, ſubtil Enemy* be working, as he did with outward *Iſrael*, cauſing *Jeſurun to wax fat, and then kick againſt the Ancient Power*, leading the Mind out (through the Injoyment of that which in its place is good) into eaſe, and ſo *to forget the Lord that made & formed man, and brought him into the Land of Reſt, and lightly to eſteem of the very Rock of Salvation*; and ſo leadeth into an eaſeful State, in a Profeſſion, and draws away the Mind from the inward *Enjoyment of Virtue*, to ſet up *Idols in the Heart*, and to *ſerve other Gods*, even *Gods of Gold and Silver, and an Idol*, a *Profeſſion without Life and Poſſeſſion*: And into this State and Condition did the *old Enemy* prevail to lead a People, *who in many Ages had ſeen the Great and Mighty Works of the Lord, who ſaw from time to time the Arm of God Almighty out-ſtretched, and magnified in the Sight of their Enemies for them*; *howbeit* (as aforeſaid) *they departed from the Lord, and from the inward Sence of his eternal Power.* Now here the Spirit that was caſt out, and wandred in dry Places, takes to it *Seven*

worse Spirits, and returns, tempts, prevails & enters, and here indeed the *Latter-end is worse then the Beginning*; for in the *Beginning*, although the *Enemy* had his Power and Rule, yet there was a *Sence thereof*, and the Heart and Mind was *humbled, tender*, and *brought into the true Poverty*, and there was a *Mourning before the Lord for want of the Dominion*; and this State of *Humiliation, Brokenness of Heart*, and *Tenderness of Spirit*, in which the Lord took and taketh Delight, and therefore in his *endless, boundless Loving-kindness* visited & caus'd his *redeeming saving Power & Arm* to be reveal'd: But now in this other Estate, the Mind is high, the Heart fat & full, and at ease, and gotten forth into the Love of the World, and the things there of, through which there is *an Unmindfulness of the Lord*, who in the *beginning* was every day sought after, and diligently waited for, and here the Rock (the Power) is lightly esteemed of; for the *Estimation* is of another thing: and here two great Evils are committed even at once, viz. *The Fountain of the former living Mercies forsaken, & a hewing out broken Cisterns* (a Profession) *that will hold no Water, no durable Refreshment, no durable Joy, no durable Peace nor Consolation*: And the *Enemy* hath thus prevailed through many Ages, to bring *Thousands* from their Enjoyment of God in the *pure, tender, broken, contrite, upright-spirited Estate*, which he hath & doth effect through his Workings and Subtilty, and that gradually; his first *Foot-step* hereunto is, to bring out of the constant, daily, sure Watchfulness, and causing a little Liberty to be taken to the *carnal Mind* and to the *Flesh*, and that gradually, and (as it were unperceivably) causing such to take down (as it were) a Taste, a certain Enjoyment of *Sweetness* therein, and thereby a little darkning the Sight, & alluring a little into a little more Liberty: sometimes his *Beginnings* are to draw out of the Obedience in those things that were required in the Day of Small things; sometimes into *many Words* out of *Watchfulness*, no more to be as a *Door-keeper in the House of the Lord*; and so the *Enemy* works to cause such-like things to seem small and indifferent things, thereby to cause the *Offence of the Cross* in those things *to cease*; and then the Heart and Mind runs forth to make Provision for the Flesh to fulfil the Lust thereof, either in *Meats, Drinks, Apparel*, or such like, which the Truth in times past hath discover'd and made manifest, and the Power of God (the *Cross of Christ*) hath croft, and

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in measure lead out of, into Watchfulness, in pure Fear and holy Awe, not making Provision for the Flesh in any respect to fulfil the Lusts thereof; but drawing the Creature in Practice, as well as in Principle, into Plainness, and out of all Superfluities, admitting of the Creature to refresh Nature, and not feed the Lusts.

But yet the Enemy works by degrees, subtilly and covertly to lead out of the *Liberty of the Cross of Christ Jesus* (the *Power of God unto Salvation*) into the Liberty of the Flesh again, and hereby gets a little further Entrance; and though the Enemy be working to *draw forth the mind into a wrong Liberty* (as into *many Words in Dealings, in Commerce* or *Converse*, and into the *Love of the World*, and *the Things thereof* again, &c.) yet the *Profession* may remain, and the *Enemy* may be contented therewith, yea, and many times the *Power of God* may be felt in some measure, which indeed works not in the Approvement, but to draw out of the Snare; but the *God of the World* having by this time much blinded the Eye, and darkened the Heart, and deceiv'd the Understanding, there is not a Sence nor Knowledge of the Mind of the *Power of the Lord* in its Workings, nor a real Sence of the *Decay & gradual subtil Workings of the Enemy*; for the outward *Profession* & *Conformity* may be in a great measure kept to, which is a Cover under which the Enemy may work undiscovered by the Unwatchful: And so the Enemy many times leads cunningly step by step, until he hath lead out of the Power of Godliness, and slain the tender Birth, which in the first dayes of *tender Visitations* was begotten; and so here now there will be a growing high, fat and thick; and such will call the Operation of God's dividing Power Extreams & Imaginations, and (*Jesurun* like) will kick, and turn against the dividing Power of the mighty God, for all such are best contented with a Likeness & Image; for it loves the smooth things in the Wisdom of the gifted Man, that has lost his Way, through erring from the Power, *not waiting continually on all Occasions to be guided thereby*: So here is the *itching Ear*, and *heaping up Teachers to please Self*, to please that, & uphold that; and here *Jezebel* is suffer'd and upheld; which Error crept into the Church of *Thyatira*; & in all Ages they that went from the broken, tender Estate, into the Conditions before discover'd, did & do both suffer and nurture this *Jezebel*, who must be cast on the *Bed of Torments*, and all her Children must be kill'd with *Death*: And all the

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Workings of the Enemy (under every Disguise) is to slay that which was quickned, & to bring in a *Contentedness with an Outside Profession of the Way of Truth, Light and Life of Christ Jesus* (the Power of God unto Salvation) *whilst the Heart is adulterated and gone from the Lord, & has imbraced other Lovers*; & so in process of time, where the Enemy thus prevails, he leads again into the World, from whence the Arm of the Lord gather'd; *and the Latter-end of such is indeed worse then the Beginning*: For the Enemy having lead to make Shipwrack of *Faith* and of a *good Conscience*, the second Death comes over, and such become twice dead, and become as Salt which has lost its Savour, & are good for nothing, but to be cast forth, and troden under foot of men. The *Preservation* out of these *By-paths, Crooked Ways, Wiles, Snares & Temptations of the Enemy*, is only *in the True Waiting & Sincere Abiding in the Light, Gift & Grace of God, in which the daily Revelations and Manifestations of God's Eternal Power, and Right Arm of Salvation, and Preservation is known in the daily Acquaintance & Experience thereof, which keeps all Minds truly low, and Hearts sincerely tender, wherein ariseth an inward Travail, Longing, Breathing and Panting after the daily and continual Injoyment of the Life, Power, & blessed, refreshing, heavenly Virtue, which alone renews and increases the Strength of the inward Man*; in which God Almighty preserve all the Travellers *Zion*-wards to the End.

The Utter End and Final Destruction Propheſied of all False Professions, who have had their Rise in the *Night* of *Apostacy*.

After the Glorious Breakings forth of the *Day of God* amongst the Apostles, &c. the Enemy wrought mightily against that Appearance, both in his Instruments (by and through which he raised up *Persecution*) and also in those Apostates in whom he got an Entrance amongst the Churches, and has so prevailed that great has been that *horrible Night of Darkness and Apostacy*, that hath been some hundreds of years in & over the Nations of the Earth; in which

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times the old ſubtil Serpent in his many Transformings & Appearances, has mightily wrought to alienate man from his God: Oh the Ways & Inventions that have been by him ſet up (through his workings in the Wiſdom which is from below, which is earthly, ſenſual and deviliſh) under Pretence of *Religion, Obedience* & *Worſhip of God*! What *Rending, Tearing, Devouring, Murdering and Deſtroying* hath there bin for theſe many hundreds of years about *Religion*? Firſt the great Red *Dragon of Perſecution* appear'd to devour the *Man-child* and deſtroy the *Woman*, but both were preſerved; then he made War with the Remnant of her Seed, and after came in another Appearance, which *John* ſaw *riſe as a Beaſt out of the Sea, who had ſeven Heads and ten Horns, and on his Horns Crowns, and upon his Heads the Name of Blaſphemy; and one of his Heads had a deadly Wound by the Sword, but this deadly Wound was again healed; & all the World wondred after the Beaſt, ſaying*, Who is like the Beaſt? *and* Who is able to make War with him? And all on the Earth have and do worſhip the Beaſt, whoſe Names are not written in the Book of the Life of the Lamb ſlain from the Foundation of the World: *And after this a ſecond Beaſt appear'd, that came out of the Earth; and this Beaſt had two Horns like a Lamb, but ſpake as a Dragon; and* John *ſaw he exerciſed all the Power of the firſt Beaſt, who receiv'd his Power and Authority from the Dragon, like unto which this ſecond Beaſt ſpake; and this Beaſt that had Horns like a Lamb, cauſed the Earth & them that dwelt therein to worſhip the firſt Beaſt, whoſe deadly Wound was healed; and he cauſed all both Small and Great, Rich and Poor, Free and Bond to receive a Mark in their Right Hand or in their Fore-heads.* And here has been the univerſal working of the power and ſpirit of Darkneſs, that hath exalted himſelf, ſitting in the Temple of God as God and Ruler; but (bleſſed forever be the Name of the Almighty God) the great Red Dragon, and the Beaſt that aroſe out of the Sea, & the Beaſt that aroſe out of the Earth, and Myſtery *Babylon*, are and ſhall be manifeſt; The Wiſdom that is pure & peaceable numbers theſe Appearances: and the Judgment of the great Whore is come & coming, who rides upon the firſt Beaſt, for now the Angel of God's Preſence is come down from Heaven, having great Power, who lightens the Earth with his *Glory*; & the *mighty Cry* is now going over the Earth, utter'd with a ſtrong Voice, ſaying, Babylon *the great is fallen, is fallen, & become the Habitation of Devils, &c.* All Nations have drunk of the Wine of the Wrath of her Fornications, & the Kings of the Earth have committed Fornication with her, & the

Merchants of the Earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her Delicacies; and the Voice is now uttering from Heaven, *Come out of her my People, that ye be not Partakers of her Sins, and that ye partake not of her Plagues*; for her Sins have reached unto Heaven, and God hath remembred her Iniquities; and now is the one day dawning over the Earth, wherein her Plagues, Mourning and Famine come, and she shall be utterly burn'd with the Fire of God's Jealousie; *for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her*. And now in the Name of the eternal, ever-living, blessed God, the Creator of all things, I propheſie of the *perpetual Destruction* & *utter Desolation* of the *Religions*, *Inventions*, *Ways*, *Worships*, *Prescriptions*, *Orders*, *Decrees* and *Imitations*, that have been setting up this many hundreds of years, and not by the eternal living Power of the living God, nor Directions, Leadings & Guidings of his quickning Spirit of Life, that led & guided the Apostles in their Day, Age and Generation; Root and Branch, Head & Tail, and the whole Fabrick of the *Babylonish* Building shall be utterly consumed, razed down and confounded forever; and all the Worshippers of the Beast and the Image shall drink of the VVine of the VVrath of God, which is pour'd forth without Mixture into the Cup of his Indignation; and these VVorshippers shall be tormented, and have no Rest Night nor Day, who worship the Beast and his Image, and whosoever receive the Mark of his Name, &c.

A Call in the Tender Bowels of the Love of God shed abroad in this Day, Age and Generation, unto all the Scattered Sheep, &c.

HEarken & give ear all ye *scattered Ones* upon the barren Mountains of *Profession*, who having lost the living Sence that was on many of your Spirits years ago, & are now seeking the *living* amongst the *dead Professions*, & your *Bread in desolate Places*; Remember the *days*, *moneths* and *years* past; call to mind the *days of your Tenderness*, when the Light of God so shined on your Tabernacle, that by it you saw your selves in Darkness, and in Separation from the Injoyment of your Creator; which Sence brought a *Day of Mourning* & *bitter Lamentation* on you, which was the Cause of your *Fasting*, *Praying* and

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earneſt Seeking after the Lord, with multitude of Sighs, Groans and Tears, which cauſed you to put many Days and Times apart to meet together to pour forth your Souls in ſeeking the living God, for his Appearance & Breaking forth by his eternal Power, and for the Revealings of his ancient Arm and Horn of Salvation: And in that Day how did many of you retire your ſelves into your *Cloſets & Secret Places to mourn before the Lord*? And how did your *Cries*, *Breathings* and *Pantings* after the Lord prevent the *Morning Watches*: And in that Day was it not *Subſtance* it ſelf that you ſought after, even the *Revealings of the Son of God's Love in your Souls*? Let me now come near, and expoſtulate with you in the Name of the Mighty God, even with you amongſt all Profeſſions that have any *Tenderneſs* or *Breathings* after the Lord remaining in you; What was it that ſtirr'd up your Hearts many years ſince thus to ſeek after the Lord? What was it that gave you the ſence of your own inward Conditions? What was it that made Sin appear exceeding ſinful? What was it that you felt in your Minds that war'd againſt the Law of Sin & Death in your Members? What was it that in ſome measure open'd the Eye of your Underſtanding to ſee Idolatry and Superſtition? What was it that was drawing your Hearts out of the World, that even made thoſe things of light eſteem in compariſon of that which your awakned Souls ſought after? What was it that inwardly upheld you in Sufferings? What was it that you retired your Minds unto when the *Wicked* raged as the *Waves of the Sea*, when you were *mocked for the Plainneſs of your Apparel*, and for your *Severity in your Families*? Remember your *many ſignal Deliverances*; How did the Lord anſwer you in the Day of your *Tenderneſs*? What was it that exercis'd you inwardly, moving on every one of your particular Souls and Spirits for a *Reformation*? was it not the free Grace of God? was it not that Light which ſhined on your Tabernacle? Did not this ſhine in your Hearts, and move on your Spirits God-wards, and began the inward Work of the Lord in you? Why did you ſtart aſide from following on toward the Lord in the *Way of his Judgments* when a little Proſperity attended you? Why did you ſeek to get from under the *Judgment* before it was brought forth into *Victory*? Be awaken'd, and come back, you *Profeſſors* of all ſorts, that have thus turn'd aſide for a *thing of nought*, which has caus'd you to wander from one *Mountain of Profeſſion* to another, and from one *exalted Hill of Imaginations and Conceivings* to another, until you have ſpent all your *Portion*, and are in nature return'd to *Babylon*, the

City of Confusion, out of which the Lord God Almighty thus calls you, *Hasten, hasten to come forth, and partake no longer with her in her Sins, lest ye partake with her of her Plagues, which are now hastening to come upon her, and upon all that shall be found within her Borders.* Open now your Eyes, and behold where you miss'd & turn'd aside, through which your fooliſh Hearts have been and are darkned; for the Enemy that goes about as a Roaring Lyon, ſeeking whom he may devour, wrought in you to turn you from this pure immortal Principle of the Divine Being (that in the dayes, moneths and years by-paſt awakned you, and began to work the Work of God in you) into a *Profeſſion* of the *Words, States & Conditions* whereof the Saints wrote, & left on record behind them, who attain'd thereunto through paſſing from Death to Life, in Obedience to the Grace of God, *that is given to every man to profit withal*, who *knew the holy War*, and *fought the good Fight*, and ſo *obtain'd the Victory*; through the effectual Workings of God they obtain'd it, and not through meer Notions upon the Words of their Brethren the Prophets, of which Victory (through Faith and Obedience unto and in the eternal Spirit of Holineſs) they were made Partakers; and thus was it that they came to put off the *old Man* (which indeed is a Work) and to put on the *new Man*, which is a real Change & Tranſlation out of Satan's kingdom, & from under his power, into the Kingdom of the dear Son of the living God, and ſo to be under his Power: But the Enemy of your Souls turn'd you from this free Grace of God (which was that which ſtirred in you, and wrought in you in your *day of Tenderneſs*) by drawing your Minds up into an *airy notional Profeſſion* of this Grace, and that by it you were ſaved, not conſidering that the immortal Souls of ſuch lie in Bondage, whoſe Faith ſtands in *Notions*, and not in the *Power of God*; or whoſe Faith is no other then a Belief of what is done for them without, not coming experimentally to know the Work of God in themſelves, and the Obedience of Faith which purifies the Conſcience, and makes alive unto God. And ſuch was the ſoaring up into Imaginations of ſome called *Gifted Men* for the Miniſtry, that they preſumed to teach and hold forth the free Grace of God after ſuch a manner, as that the Underſtandings of many were confounded, and thereby many were defiled and corrupted by admitting a Liberty unto the fleſhly Nature, and avoiding the *Croſs of Chriſt*, contrary to that holy Liberty, which through the Operation of the Grace of God is known: For though it is true, that (as the Apoſtle ſaith) *By Grace we are ſaved*; yet whoſoever holds forth this Grace ſo

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is to creat a Belief in any, *that they are thereby saved from Condemnation*, whilst they are found *Transgressors against that Righteous Law of God* (of which not one jot nor title passes away unfulfil'd in them that walk not after the Flesh, but after the Spirit) such, I say, *divide not the Word of God aright, but teach for Doctrine the Conceptions of their own Brains:* for, its not a bare Belief or Assent of the Mind to the Power of the Grace, which can give Satisfaction to the immortal Soul, or true Assurance of eternal Peace with God; but there must be also a *Conformity* in the inward Man unto the Power thereof; and so man comes to be created in Christ Jesus unto *good works*, to be sanctified throughout both in Body, Soul & Spirit: And indeed I have found, that instead of preaching up *Conformity to the Power of the Grace*, they have not only preached up *free Grace* (which indeed is an Expression in it self proper enough to be held forth, for that *the Grace of God is freely extended unto all*) but also therewith they have preached up *a Justification of sinful & unsanctified Persons by Imputed Righteousness*, even in such a manner as many have from thence concluded themselves *in a State of Salvation, while Sin hath had its reign in their mortal Bodies*; which I cannot but testifie is as great an Error, and as contrary to the *Gospel-Ministration*, and the *End for which Christ was manifest in the Flesh* (which was, *to save people from their Sins, so as to live no longer therein*) as the Error of the *Scribes* and *Pharisees* was, when they were seeking and believing Justification by the Works of the Law, without the Righteousness of Faith.

And thus hath it been, that *many have turned the Grace of God into Wantonness*, or *turned from the Grace of God into Wantonness*; so that in a little time, how did many Professors grow light and vain, and ran with the very *Prophane* into the same *excess of Riot*, & *lifted up in the Flesh*, and so came to be much in *Shew*, but little and light in the *Ballance*? And here you Professors of all sorts, that have gone from the spiritual Appearance of Christ Jesus within, into a *Profession* of the *Saints Conditions* and *Performances* without the Leadings and Guidings of the same Spirit & Power, lost your Way, and went out from your *Guide*, which would have lead you up to the *Substance, Christ Jesus*; and thousands of ignorant people have been lead here, through the *cunning Sleights of men into an empty Profession*; and when the *Manifestation* of the Spirit of God (*which is given unto every man to profit withal*) hath stirred in the Heart and Soul to draw the Mind out of the Ways, Spirit and Nature of the World, then the *transform-*

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ing Enemy of Mankind has lain near to betray & deceive, by pointing & directing people to run into this *Profession* or the other, or take up this *outward Performance* or the other *Shadow*, under the specious Pretences of the *Ordinances of God and Christ*: And hereby the subtil Enemy (that will admit of the peoples being in the outward Practice of outward things, whilst that he can have his Place, Seat and Throne in the Heart of mankind) has lead thousands aside out of the *straight Way of Salvation*, through his drawing them from the true inward Guide (the *Grace of God that brings Salvation, that hath appeared unto all men*) into the outward Observations; and here the Fear of thousands towards God is taught by the Precepts of men, who know not the Leadings and Guidings of the Spirit & Power of God; and so have heal'd the Hurt of the Daughter of *Zion* deceitfully, and have daubed with the untemper'd Morter.

And now all you scatter'd Ones upon the barren Mountains of Professions, give ear, hear the Counsel and Call of the Lord: Turn, you Prodigals, who have spent your Portions, and lost much of your Sincerity and Tenderness, and that secret Injoyment you had of the Lord inwardly (years ago) and who for a long season have endeavour'd to fill your Bellies with Husks (and the Profession of the Saints Injoyments) my Heart earns on you, and for you are my Bowels turned, my Soul is often bow'd down in the Sence of your Estates; yea, often my Heart is pained within me, when I behold your Wanderings up and down from Mountain to Mountain, seeking Rest and finding none (but what is polluted) and your Souls are lean for want of the Fatness of God's House, and you have not the Injoyment of it; my Soul is even many times distressed for you; God that made Heaven & Earth bears me record, whom my Soul eryes unto even Night and Day, to visit you with an Out-stretched Arm: Return, return unto that which will shew you all that ever you have done, and that will hasten you to the Father's House, where Bread of Life is; and no longer spend your Money, pretious Time & Labour for that which is not Bread of Life, but a Profession, a Talk of Bread, which cannot truly satisfie your Souls.

And now in the Name & Authority, and by the Motion of the Spirit of the Eternal God, Behold! I sound the *Trumpet* of the Lord God Almighty in your Ears; *Prepare, prepare to meet the Lord* Jehovah *in the Valley of Decision; and all you who have any Tenderness in your Hearts, and Breathings inwardly after the Lord, amongst all Professions*

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(*of what Name or Denomination soever*) *Come out, come out of* Babylon, *and be you separated, touch not any longer the unclean, that the Lord may receive you, who stands ready to receive all that come in Truth and Righteousness unto him, who now will mark all that mourn because of the Sins of the people, which are great, and the measure thereof filling up apace; and the day & time is hastening of the pouring out of the Vials of the unmixt Fury and Indignation of God, who lives forever and ever: And therefore flee, flee for your Lives out of* Sodom's *Nature, and stick not in the Profession of things, neither the one nor the other, whilst the Ground of thy Profession did not or doth not spring from the immediate Work of God, and daily Operation of his eternal Power in thy Heart; but come down into pure Obedience to the pure still Voice of the Spirit, and Gift of God in thy own Heart and Soul, which will (as thy inward Ear is attentive) direct thee in the narrow Way of Life eternal, in which thou should'st walk: So coming here, you come to that which moved in the Hearts of many (years since) Godwards, which was that which wrought many into the Tenderness before spoken of; herein walk, and be faithful, and it will lead to the Fountain of Blessedness, from which it came, and unto the Horn of God's Anointed; and to* Shiloh *shall be the Gathering of Thousands through the Nations, Tongues, Languages and People; and the Mountain of the Lord's House shall be exalted (through this great Day of Tryal, Tribulation and Anguish) upon the top of all the Mountains.*

So the Lord God Almighty (by the Arm of Strength) reach all Hearts that have any breathing, panting Desires after him (amongst all Professions) and pull many as *Brands* out of the *Fire*. So breathes my Soul, who am a Travailer for the *universal Visitation* and *Deliverance* of the *Seed of Jacob*, and raised up to Prophesie of the things which come to pass, and shall be fulfilled in their Time and Season.

Charles Marshall.

THE END.